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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2005

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Report Highlights:

Export prices for white rice were offered slightly higher due to tight exportable supplies. Meanwhile, those for parboiled rice continued to decline, as African buyers shifted to relatively cheaper Indian rice.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Apr. 25):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	443	420	465	445	460	410	420	439	439
WR 100 B	307	305	301	304	305	300	300	303	302
PB 5%	299	298	301	306	301	300	290	299	301
WR 5%	302	300	297	300	299	295	295	298	297
WR 10%	296	292	292	298	296	293	290	294	293
WR 15%	283	287	289	295	286	286	285	287	287
WR 25%	273	275	280	293	270	266	280	277	276
WR 35%	270	271	-	290	266	264	275	273	271
A 1 SUP	228	230	-	227	230	224	222	227	226
A 1 SPEC	225	228	-	226	228	-	220	225	225

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Market Tone

Despite continued strong price competition from major competitor like Vietnam, export prices for most grades of white rice were offered slightly higher. This reflected current tighter exportable supplies of white rice, as the Government is reportedly expected to hold the intervention stocks of around 3 million tons of white rice paddy until late May. In addition, second crop paddy supplies, which are expected to come out onto the market in April, will mostly be sold to the Government due to attractive intervention prices. Meanwhile, export prices of parboiled rice continued to decline, as some African buyers shifted to inferior Indian parboiled rice, which is relatively cheaper by around U.S.\$ 30-40/MT.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
MAR 6	73,669	91,909	1,052	991
MAR 13	88,005	90,391	1,140	1,121
MAR 20	95,458	84,627	1,236	1,265
MAR 27	89,287	86,605	1,325	1,409
APR 3	121,400	98,537	1,446	1,572
APR 10	89,073	98,804	1,536	1,701
APR 17	64,932	91,173	1,600	1,790
APR 24	127,541	100,736	1,728	1,955

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Apr. 18-24, 2005 totaled 127,541 tons, up 62,608 tons from the previous week's total and up 26,804 tons from the four-week moving average of 100,736 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Apr. 24, 2005 amounted to 1,728,129 tons, as compared with 1,954,709 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Apr. 4, 2005, amounted to 1,965,899 tons, down 8.8 percent from 2,156,134 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Apr. 4-8, Apr. 11-15, and Apr. 18-22, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Apr. 4-8	Apr. 11-15	Apr. 18-22
weekly sales	154,694	69,048	130,023
4 week sum	495,926	426,905	428,756
4 week mov. avg.	123,982	106,726	107,189
Total weekly sales	1,582,520	1,651,568	1,781,591

End of Report.